NUMB. CXIV.

The SPECTATOR.

—— Paupertatis pudor & fuga ——. Hor.

Wednesday, July 11. 1711.

O Economy in our Affairs, has the same Effect upon our Fortunes which good Breeding has upon our Conversations. There is a pretending Behaviour in both Cases, which instead of making Men esteemed, renders them both miserable and contemptible. We had Yesterday at Sir ROGER's a Set of Country Gentlemen who dined with him; and after Dinner the Glass was taken, by those who pleased, very plentifully. Among others I observed a Person of a tolerable good Aspect, who seemed to be more greedy of Liquor than any of the Company, and yet, methought, he did not taste it with Delight. As he grew warm, he was suspicious of every thing that was said; and as he advanced towards being fuddled, his Humour grew worse. At the same Time his Bitterness seemed to be rather an inward Dissatisfaction in his own Mind, than any Dislike he had taken at the Company. Upon hearing his Name, I knew him to be a Gentleman of a considerable Fortune in this County, but greatly in Debt. What gives the unhappy Man this Peevishness of Spirit, is, that his Estate is dipp'd, and is eating out with Usury; and yet he has not the Heart to sell any Part of it. His proud Stomach, at the Cost of restless Nights, constant Inquietudes, Danger of Affronts, and a thousand nameless Inconveniences, preserve this Canker in his Fortune, rather than it shall be said he is a Man of fewer Hundreds a Year than he has been commonly reputed. Thus he endures the Torment of Poverty, to avoid the Name of being less rich. If you go to his House you see great Plenty; but served in a Manner that shews it is all unnatural, and that the Master's Mind is not at home. There is a certain Waste and Carelessness in the Air of every thing, and the whole appears but a covered Indigence, a magnificent Poverty. That Neatness and Chearfulness which attends the Table of him who lives within Compass, is wanting, and exchanged for a libertine Way of Service in all about him.

This Gentleman's Conduct, tho' a very common way of Management, is as ridiculous as that Officer's would be, who had but few Men under his Command, and should take the Charge of an Extent of Country rather than of a small Pass. To pay for, personate, and keep in a Man's Hands, a greater Estate than he really has, is of all others the most unpardonable Vanity, and must in the End reduce the Man who is guilty of it to Dishonour. Yet if we look round us in any County of *Great-Britain*, we shall see many in this fatal Errour, if that may be call'd by so soft a Name, which proceeds from a false Shame of appearing what they really are, when the contrary Behaviour would in a short Time advance them to the Condition which they pretend to.

Laertes has fifteen hundred Pounds a Year, which is mortgaged for six thousand Pounds; but it is impossible to convince him, that if he sold as much as would pay off that Debt he would save four Shillings in the Pound, which he gives for the Vanity of being the reputed Master of it. But if *Laertes* did this, he would, perhaps, be easier in his own Fortune; but then *Irus*, a Fellow of Yesterday, who has but twelve hundred a Year, would be his Equal. Rather than this shall be, *Laertes* goes on to bring well-born Beggars into the World, and every Twelve-month charges his Estate with at least one Year's Rent more by the Birth of a Child.

Laertes and *Irus* are Neighbours, whose Way of living are an Abomination to each other. *Irus* is moved by the Fear of Poverty, and *Laertes* by the Shame of it. Though the Motive of Action is of so near Affinity in both, and may be resolved into this, "That to each of them Poverty is the greatest "of all Evils, yet are their Manners very widely different. Shame of Poverty makes *Laertes* launch into unnecessary Equipage, vain Expence, and lavish Entertainments; Fear of Poverty makes *Irus* allow himself only plain Necessaries, appear without a Servant, sell his own Corn, attend his Labourers, and be himself a Labourer. Fear of Poverty makes *Laertes* go every Day a Step nearer to it; and Shame of Poverty stirs up *Irus* to make every Day some further Progress from it.

These different Motives produce the Excesses which Men are guilty of in the Negligence of and Provision

Provision for themselves. Usury, Stock-Jobbing, Extortion and Oppression, have their Seed in the Dread of Want; and Vanity, Riot and Prodigality from the Shame of it: But both these Excesses are infinitely below the Pursuit of a reasonable Creature. After we have taken Care to command so much as is necessary for maintaining our selves in the Order of Men suitable to our Character, the Care of Superfluities is a Vice no less extravagant, than the Neglect of Necessaries would have been before.

Certain it is that they are both out of Nature when she is followed with Reason and good Sense. It is from this Reflexion that I always read Mr. *Cowley* with the greatest Pleasure: His Magnanimity is as much above that of other considerable Men as his Understanding; and it is a true distinguishing Spirit in the elegant Author who published his Works, to dwell so much upon the Temper of his Mind and the Moderation of his Desires: By this Means he has render'd his Friend as amiable as famous. That State of Life which bears the Face of Poverty with Mr. *Cowley's great Vulgar*, is admirably described; and it is no small Satisfaction to those of the same Turn of Desire, that he produces the Authority of the wisest Men of the best Age of the World, to strengthen his Opinion of the ordinary Pursuits of Mankind.

It would methinks be no ill Maxim of Life, if, according to that Ancestor of Sir ROGER whom I lately mentioned, every Man would point to himself what Sum he would resolve not to exceed. He might by this Means cheat himself into a Tranquility on this Side of that Expectation, or convert what he should get above it to nobler Uses than his own Pleasures or Necessities. This Temper of Mind would exempt a Man from an ignorant Envy of restless Men above him, and a more inexcusable Contempt of happy Men below him. This would be sailing by some Compass, living with some Design; but to be eternally bewildered in Prospects of future Gain, and putting on unnecessary Armour against improbable Blows of Fortune, is a Mechanick Being which has not good Sense for its Direction, but is carried on by a Sort of acquired Instinct towards things below our Consideration and unworthy our Esteem. It is possible that the Tranquility I now enjoy at Sir ROGER's may have created in me this Way of Thinking, which is so abstracted from the common Relish of the World: But as I am now in a pleasing Arbour surrounded with a beautiful Landskip, I find no Inclination so strong as to continue in these Mansions, so remote from the ostentatious Scenes of Life; and am at this present Writing Philosopher enough to conclude with Mr. *Cowley*;

If e'er Ambition did my Fancy cheat,
With any Wish so mean as to be Great;
Continue, Heav'n, still from me to remove,
The humble Blessings of that Life I love.

By Her Majesty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane, on Friday next, being the 13th of July, will be presented a Comedy call'd the Gamester. The Part of the Gamester to be perform'd by Mr. Mills, Lovewell by Mr. Booth, Sir Tho. Valere by Mr. Bullock, Dorante by Mr. Norris, Count Cogdie by Mr. Bullock, Junior, Hector by Mr. Pack, Lady Wealthy Mrs. Porter, Angelica Mrs. Bradshaw, Mrs. Security by Mrs. Willis, Favourite by Mrs. Mills.

The Governour and Company of Adventurers of England trading into Hudson's-Bay, give Notice to all Subscribers who are in Arrears of Money for any Quarterages or Entrances in the said Company's Undertaking for enabling Apprentices to set up their Trades, and for providing Marriage-Portions, which was due before the 25th of March last, That if the same be not paid on or before the 17th Day of this Instant July, the Person or Persons so neglecting will be then excluded.

And to all such Subscribers who are in Arrears for Quarterage due on the 25th of March last, That if the same be not paid on or before the 17th of August next, the Person or Persons so neglecting will be then excluded.

And to all such Subscribers who are in Arrears for Quarterage due on the 24th of June last, That if the same be not paid on before the 24th Day of September next, the Person or Persons so neglecting will be then excluded.

They also give further Notice, That the first Dividend for Apprentices, which was adjourned the 2d of April last, will be paid on the 24th of this Instant July, unto such who are intituled thereto; and the 2d Dividend for Apprentices will be paid pursuant to the Proposals: And the first Dividend for Marriages will be paid on the 24th Day of August next, and the 2d Dividend for Marriages will be paid pursuant to the Proposals; and the Books in the Office for Marriages and Apprentices will be open'd the 17th of this Instant July, and daily Attendance will be given at the Office at the Hudson's-Bay House in Fenchurch-street from 10 a Clock in the Forenoon untill 2, and from 4 until 7 in the Evening.

And that all Certificates which are or shall be sold, shall be assigned and transferred in the Office, and entered in Books kept for that Purpose, otherwise the Claims due thereon will not be paid to any but the original Proprietor; and the Charge of Transferring will be 6 d. each Certificate, or 2 s. 6 d. per Set.

And to all Persons who are intituled to any Share of the first Dividend for Marriages, which will be made the 24th of August next, That if they do not make Proof of their Title thereto before the last Day of this Instant July, they will be excluded in the same Manner as is expreft in the 34th Article of the Company's Proposals.

For SALE by the CANDLE.

On Friday next, the 13th Instant, at Lloyd's Coffee-house in Lombard-street, at 9 a Clock in the Forenoon (or if Cask in a Lot) the entire Cargo of the Prize St Ann, taken by a Guernzey Privateer; consisting of between 80 and 90 Hogsheads of new Cahorse Wine and other new French Clarets, and 4 Hhds of new Prize-French White-Wine, of the best Growths, and of this last Vintage: Now landing at Buttolph-Wharf between London-bridge and Billingsgate. The said new Clarets to be seen and tasted in Cellars or Warehouses to Day and to Morrow, from 6 a Clock till and from 2 to 7. (Note, The Buyers are desired to appear punctually at the Hour appointed, viz 9 a Clock in the Forenoon next Friday.) To be sold by Tho. Tomkins, Broker, in Seething-lane Tower-street.

At the Indian Man in Russel-Street, Covent-Garden, is a Parcel of rich Jewels, viz. a Brilliant Diamond String and Cross, Ear-Rings, Rings, Buckles, Pendants, and also fine Lace, rich Silks, Muslins, and other valuable Goods, to be dispos'd of at reasonable Rates, the whole amounting to 675 l. which, for the Encouragement of Buyers, will be divided into 360 Shares, the biggest whereof is 100 l. Value, and the least 10 s. Any one of these may be purchased for the little Sum of Half a Crown, as may be known more at large at the Place of Sale, where Attendance will be given till all the Goods be sold. It being not quite full, is put off to the 31st Instant.

There is to be Sold at very low Rates at Mr. Everell's, Watch-maker, at the Unicorn and Dyal up one Pair of Stairs near Strand Bridge, all sorts of Muslin Cravats and Holland and Cambricks for Handkerchiefs, being the Goods of several Persons that fail'd. The Cravats are put up 3 in a Paper, and the Price mark'd upon each Parcel.

This Day is publish'd,

The History of the present Parliament and Convocation. With the Debates at large relating to the Conduct of the War abroad, the Mismanagements of the Ministry at home, and the Reasons why some Offenders are not yet impeached. Interspersed with several Speeches and Representations of Grievances in Matters Religious as well as Civil, together with the Motives that induced the B---ps not to consent to the Representation agreed to by the Committee of both Houses of Convocation. To which is added an exact List of the Parliament and Convocation, as also an Abstract of the South-Sea Act, with a List of the Commissioner's Names. Printed for John Baker at the Black Boy in Pater-noster Row.

This Day is publish'd,

A Theological Theory of a Plurality of Worlds. Being a Critical, Philosophical, and Practical Discourse concerning Visible or Material Worlds. By D. Sturmy, M. A. Rector of Hatley in the County of Cambridge, and Chaplain to the Right Honourable the Earl of Litchfield. Price 6 d.

LONDON: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*; and Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertisements are taken in; as also by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.